

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 4-10 and 12-14 are pending in the application. Claims 1 and 9 have been amended.

The rejection of claims 1, 4-10 and 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Locke et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,756,020) in view of Reinehr et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,087,494) and Hixon et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,445,653) is respectfully traversed in view of the amendments of claims 1 and 9.

Reinehr et al. disclose a process of adding carbon black into acrylic polymer before making a fiber then over dyeing the fiber (column 1 lines 35-39). Reinehr et al. further disclose that the addition of carbon black would add the dark shades into the fiber thus save the amount of dyer required for the final product.

In contrast, the present invention teaches to make fibers of any color shades with the benefit of color fastness by adding a small amount of combination of two color pigments selected from the trichromatic dye color system of blue, yellow and red.

Hixon et al. disclose that the solution dyed nylons are available in only a few solid color thus there is a limit to the designs available (column 1 lines 37-45). The Examiner then cited that Lock et al. taught a process to make a larger variety of colored shades of nylon yarns using pigments. The Examiner concluded the combined prior art teachings of Hixon et al. and Lock et al. would teach over dyeing the pigmented nylon yarns to a large variety of colors. However, the combination of the prior arts only teaches over dyeing the pigmented nylon yarns using the same color dyes as the original color of the pigments. Thus the final color of the over dyed nylon yarns is limited to the colors of the original pigmented yarns. That would cause one to maintain a huge inventory of pigmented yarns with various colors to meet the market demands.

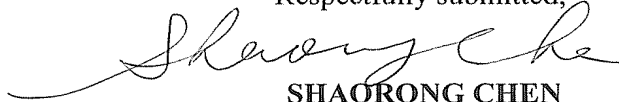
In contrast, the present invention claims the yarns have so low level of pigments that any color shades of yarns can be achieved without inventory of the pigmented yarns. In addition, only Applicant realized the benefit of the “off-white” pigmented yarns over dyed to any color in the present invention. The prior arts only teach over dyeing pigmented fibers that have visible shades so that the amounts of dyes with the same color as the fibers can be saved. It is not obvious for the ordinary people skills in the art to over dye “off-white” pigmented yarns to colored yarns.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that the foregoing amendment and remarks constitute a complete response to the Examiner's rejection on March 2, 2007, and place this application in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this Amendment, or the remarks contained herein, Applicant's attorney would welcome the opportunity to discuss such matters with the Examiner. Please charge the extension fees for two months from the Deposit Account 50-3223 (Invista North America S.à r.l.).

Respectfully submitted,



SHAORONG CHEN

Patent Agent

Registration No.: 55,054

Invista North America s.à r.l.

Customer No. 43693

2801 Centerville Road

Wilmington, Delaware 19808

Telephone: (302) 683-3289

Facsimile: (302) 683-3473

Email: Shaorong.Chen@invista.com

Dated: August 1, 2007